

REBECCA STRAPLE-SOVERS

Curriculum Vitae

June 13, 2022

Western Michigan University
Medieval Institute Publications
Mail Stop 5432
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5432

1404 Forbes St
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
+1 (708) 925-6759
rebecca.straple@wmich.edu

EDUCATION

2021 Ph.D., English, Western Michigan University
Dissertation: “Movement and Meaning in Early Medieval England: The Kinesic Style of Old English Saints’ Lives.” Advisor: Jana Schulman, Ph.D.

2012 M.A., Medieval English Literatures, University of York
Thesis: “Women’s Blood, Women’s Bodies: Some Female Reproductive Bodies in Anglo-Saxon Religious Literature.” Advisor: Elizabeth Tyler, Ph.D.

2009 B.A., Publishing Studies and Dance Performance, Illinois State University
Honors Thesis: “Dance and Dancers in Anglo-Saxon Literature and Culture.”
Advisor: Susan Kim, Ph.D.

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

Forthcoming “The Dancing Girls in the *Life of Saints Chrysanthus and Daria*.” In *Early Medieval English Women: A Florilegium*, edited by Emily Butler, Irina Dumitrescu, and Hilary E. Fox. London: Palgrave.

Forthcoming “Pedagogy in the Digital Age.” In *Practical Approaches to Teaching Beowulf*, edited by Larry Swain and Aaron Hostetter. Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications.

2021 “Kinesic Analysis: A Theoretical Approach to Reading Bodily Movement in Literature.” In *The Cursed Carolers in Context*, edited by Lynne Renberg and Bradley Phillis, 21–38. London: Routledge, 2021.

Refereed Journal Articles

2017 “‘Glorious and Execrable’: The Dead and Their Bodies in World War I Poetry.” *The Hilltop Review* 9, no. 2 (2017): 14–31.

Other Scholarship, Creative Work, and Performance

2021 Translator. Lines 886–899. In *Beowulf by All: Community Translation and Workbook*. Edited by Elaine Treharne, Jean Abbott, and Mateusz Fafinski, 64. Leeds: Arc Humanities Press, 2021.

2019	Contributor. "Book 5, Chapter 6: The Battle of the Pelennor Fields." July 11, 2019, in <i>ARC: A Tolkien Podcast</i> , produced by Charlie Lein and Pip Parker, podcast. https://soundcloud.com/arclotr/book-5-chapter-6-the-battle-of-the-pelennor-fields
2018	Choreographer and dancer. "Visitatio." Choral and dance performance presented by Early Music Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI, April 2018.
2017	Choreographer and dancer. "Cosmic Dance." Choral and dance performance, presented by Early Music Michigan at the Mostly Medieval Theatre Festival, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2017.
2013 – Present	Alto. Early Music Michigan. Kalamazoo, MI.
2013	Choreographer. "Offerings." Freespace Dance Festival, Elgin, IL, August 2013.

AWARDS, HONORS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2021	Antonia H. Rostami Endowed Scholarship, English Department, Western Michigan University
2019 – 2020	Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate College, Western Michigan University
2018	Newberry Renaissance Consortium Grant, The Newberry Library
2018	All-University Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award, Graduate College, Western Michigan University
2017	Patricia Lee Thompson Dissertation Award, Graduate College, Western Michigan University
2017	National Humanities Without Walls PreDoctoral Fellowship, HWW Consortium
2017	Departmental Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award, English Department, Western Michigan University
2017	<i>The Hilltop Review</i> Publication Award, First Place, Graduate Student Association, Western Michigan University
2017	Graduate Student Travel Grant, Graduate College, Western Michigan University
2015	Graduate Student Travel Grant, Graduate College, Western Michigan University
2015	Newberry Renaissance Consortium Grant, The Newberry Library
2010	Scholarship for Overseas Students, University of York
2010	Departmental Postgraduate Award, University of York

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Panels Organized

2021	Organizer, "Intangible Cultural Heritage and the Global Middle Ages," 56th International Congress on Medieval Studies (ICMS), Kalamazoo, MI, May
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2021 2021 Co-organizer, “A Feminist Renaissance in Early Medieval English Studies I: Women’s Networks in the Early Medieval North Atlantic,” 56th ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2020. Special Session sponsored by A Feminist Renaissance in Early Medieval English Studies.

2021 Co-organizer, “A Feminist Renaissance in Early Medieval English Studies II: Feminist Critical Methodologies for the Early Middle Ages,” 56th ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2020. Special Session sponsored by A Feminist Renaissance in Early Medieval English Studies.

2020 *Many conferences cancelled/postponed as a result of COVID-19.*

2019 Co-organizer, “A Feminist Renaissance in Anglo-Saxon Studies I and II: White Nationalism, Misogyny, and the Modern Reception of the Early Medieval North Atlantic,” 54th ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2019. Special Sessions sponsored by A Feminist Renaissance in Anglo-Saxon Studies.

2018 Co-organizer, “A Feminist Renaissance in Anglo-Saxon Studies II: Projects in Progress,” 53rd ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2018. Special Session sponsored by A Feminist Renaissance in Anglo-Saxon Studies.

2018 Co-organizer, “A Feminist Renaissance in Anglo-Saxon Studies I: Interdisciplinary/Extramural,” 53rd ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2018. Special Session sponsored by A Feminist Renaissance in Anglo-Saxon Studies.

2017 “Movement and Meaning in Early Medieval Literature,” 52nd ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2017.

2017 “Movement in Medieval Literature,” 50th ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2015.

Papers Presented

2022 “Weary Warriors and Violent Virgins: Masculine and Feminine Violence in Old English Verse Saints’ Lives,” 2022 MLA Annual Convention, Washington, DC, January 2022.

2020 “Movement, Stillness, and Transformation in *Andreas* and *Guthlac*,” 54th ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2020. – *Cancelled as a result of COVID-19.*

2019 “‘A Feather on the Breath of God’: Medieval and Modern Movement,” 54th ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2019.

2018 “Movement and Communication in Anglo-Saxon Literature,” 53rd ICMS, Kalamazoo, May 2018.

2018 “Juliana and Judith: Movement, Stillness, and Two Models of Female Sanctity,” 35th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Medieval Association, Chicago, IL, February 2018.

2017 “Gendered Movement in Anglo-Saxon Literature,” 22nd Leeds International Medieval Congress (IMC), July 2017.

2017 “Movement in Anglo-Saxon Hagiography,” 52nd ICMS, Kalamazoo, May 2017.

2016 “Public Peace and Personal Purity: Gender, Communities, and Relationships in Law and Literature of Anglo-Saxon England,” 51st ICMS, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2016.

2015 “‘Far From Drunk With Ale’: Women, Sobriety, and Power in Old Norse Literature,” 21st IMC, Leeds, UK, July 2015.

2014 “‘Nor Hell a Fury’: Female Vengeance in the *Nibelungenlied* and

	Völsungasaga,” 2 nd Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, St. Louis, MO, June 2014.
2014	“‘O Mighty Mud-Dweller’: Non-Sexual Insults in the <i>Saga of Bjorn, Champion of the Hitardal People</i> ,” 49 th ICMS, Kalamazoo, May 2014.
2014	“Celestial or Human Childbirth?: Medical and Scientific Terminology in Anglo-Saxon Marian Texts,” 26 th Annual Indiana University Medieval Studies Symposium, Bloomington, IN, March 2014.
2013	“Mary’s Womb as Dwelling: The Virginal, Fertile, and Maternal Body of Mary in Anglo-Saxon Literature,” Medieval Association of the Midwest 29 th Annual Conference, Terre Haute, IN, September 2013.
2013	“Women’s Blood: Ritual Purity in Anglo-Saxon Religious Texts,” 1 st Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, St. Louis, MO, June 2013.
2011	“Female Reproductive Bodies in Anglo-Saxon Religious Literature,” Norwich-York-King’s College London Graduate Student Conference, London, June 2011.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Western Michigan University

British Literature I (Fall 2016, instructor of record; Spring 2016, teaching assistant)

Literary Interpretation (Spring 2017, Spring 2015, Spring 2014, Fall 2013, instructor of record)

Thought and Writing Intensive (program for at-risk students; Spring 2016, teaching assistant)

Thought and Writing (composition) (Fall 2015, Fall 2014, instructor of record)

Art History: Modern and Postmodern Art (Fall 2020, grader)

University of York, UK

Realising Opportunities (secondary school preparatory program; 2011, postgraduate tutor)

Illinois State University

Modern Dance I (Fall 2008, Spring 2009, teaching assistant)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Spring 2021	Graduate Assistant to Drs. Jana Schulman and Bob Berkhofer, Directors of the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on “Law and Culture in Medieval England”
Summer 2016	Graduate assistant to Dr. Jana Schulman, Director of the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on “Teaching Beowulf in the Context of Its Old Norse Analogues”
Summer 2014	Research assistant to Dr. Jana Schulman, writing a grant proposal for a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute on “Teaching Beowulf in the Context of its Old Norse Analogues”

PUBLISHING EXPERIENCE

January 2022 – Present	Marketing Specialist, Medieval Institute Publications
September 2019 – January 2022	Marketing Coordinator, Medieval Institute Publications
February – September 2019	Social Media Coordinator, Medieval Institute Publications
January – December 2018	Digital Production Manager, Arc Humanities Press
January – June 2017	Assistant Editor, <i>Hortulus: The Online Graduate Journal of Medieval Studies</i>
May 2016 – February 2019	Assistant to the Editor-in-Chief, Medieval Institute Publications
2016 – 2017	Editorial Board Member and Peer Reviewer, <i>The Hilltop Review</i> , Western Michigan University
Summer 2015	Junior Editorial Assistant, Medieval Institute Publications
2014 – 2016	Director and Editor, <i>The Hilltop Review</i> (graduate journal of Western Michigan University)
March 2012 – August 2013	Associate Web Content Specialist, Independent Publishers Group
May – August 2009	Intern, Lake Claremont Press
2008 – Present	Freelance Editor (line editing, copy editing, proofreading, and formatting for trade, business, and academic customers, including monographs, dissertations, theses, and journal articles)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2018 – 2019	Graduate Assistant to the Dissertation Specialist, The Graduate College, Western Michigan University
2017 – 2018	Graduate Staff Support, The Graduate College, Western Michigan University, June 2017-June 2018

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2022	Peer Reviewer, <i>Arts</i>
2018 – 2021	Graduate Student Representative, Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship
2015 – 2018	AGES (Association of Graduate English Students) Secretary and Co-Chair of Social Committee
2015	Conference Committee, 2015 National Association of Graduate-Professional Students Midwest Regional Conference

COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH

Composition
Introduction to Literature
British Literature Survey
Medieval Literature Survey
Humanities Survey
Here Be Monsters: Monstrosity in Global Literature
Heroes, Gods, and Monsters: Mythology and Modern Adaptations

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

May 24, 2022	Marketing and Selling Your Books Online: What to Do and How to Do It: An AUPresses Sponsored Webinar
March 16, 2022	Building an Online Community and Maximizing Online Book Marketing and Sales: An AUPresses Sponsored Webinar
October 15, 2020	Navigating the Evolving World of Virtual Exhibits: An AUPresses Conversation, Association of University Presses
April 22, 2020	Academic Developmental Editing Webinar, Editorial Freelancers Association
September – December 2018	Digital Humanities and Premodern Studies: An Introduction, The Newberry Library
July – August 2017	Humanities Without Walls National PreDoctoral Career Diversity Residential Summer Workshop, HWW Consortium
AY 2016 – 2017	Graduate Student Teaching Institute, Western Michigan University
July 2016	Graduate Student Teaching Intensive, Western Michigan University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

2019 – Present	Dance Studies Association
2014 – Present	American Association of University Women
2014 – Present	Medieval Academy of America
2014 – Present	International Society for the Study of Early Medieval England
2013 – Present	Medieval Association of the Midwest
2013 – Present	Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship
2013 – 2017	WMU Chapter of the Teaching Assistants' Union
2011 – Present	Viking Society for Northern Research
2009 – Present	Modern Language Association
2008 – Present	Sigma Tau Delta: International English Honors Society

REFERENCES

Jana Schulman

Director

Medieval Institute, Western Michigan University

jana.schulman@wmich.edu

Jennifer Holm

Dissertation Specialist

Western Michigan University Graduate College

jennifer.holm@wmich.edu

Theresa Whitaker

Editor-in-Chief

Medieval Institute Publications, Western Michigan University

theresa.m.whitaker@wmich.edu